(i) statement made to Police relating to offences punishable with improsonment upto ten years be signed and quickly transmitted to the Magistrate (ii) recording of evidence of material witness under oath by Magistrate in all offences punishable with death or imprisonment for 10 years or more (iii) enhanced punishment for perjury.

Setting up of Supreme Court's Bench

4184. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up with the Supreme Court the matter of establishing a bench of Supreme Court in the South;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter of setting up of bench of the Supreme Court outside Delhi has been taken up with successive Chief Justices. However, the Chief Justice of India has last conveyed on 16.11.2004 that the matter was discussed in a Full Court meeting of Hon'ble Judges but Full Court did not favour setting up of Benches of the Supreme Court outside Delhi.

(d) A Bench of the Supreme Court outside Delhi can be set up only by carrying out an amendment to the Constitution of India.

Setting up of election fund

4185. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up an Election Fund to fund elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?